Development of roads

2829. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether roads development is being given high priority all over the country in order to encourage trade, commerce, tourism and other traffic; and

(b) whether Governmen t are aware that road traffic in Delhi has been made totally unpleasent and difficult due to heavy dependence by traffic police on punishment rather than education and creation of bottlenecks in traffic all over Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir. Road Development is given due priority.

(b) Delhi Administration have reported that a number of steps have been taken to inculcate better sense of road discipline amongst the drivers and these include issuance of Learners' Manual, rigorous test at the time of grant of driving licence, introduction of poloride form of driving licence making it impossible to issue a licence in absentia, declaration of 1987 as an year of road safety in Delhi where the action-plan covers publicity through various media, eye-testing camps for drivers, etc.

Professional Diplomas

2830. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Professional Diplomas considered equivalent to bachelor's degrees; and

(b) whether three years diploma in the Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition Technology and the Engineering Diplomas being awarded by various institutes and polytechnics are such diplomas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) On the advice of the Board of Assessment for Educational Qualifications, Government of India have recognised Membership Examinations of some Professional Bodies for recruitment to superior posts and services under the Central Government where normally degrees in the appropriate branches of Engineering or Technology are prescribed as the qualification for the recruitment. The list of the Professional Bodies whose Membership Examinations have been recongnised by the Government of India for recruitment to superior posts and services under Central Government in the field of Engineering and Technology is enclosed. (*See* statement below)

(b) The three years diploma in Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition Technology and the diplomas in Engineering and Technology awarded by the State Boards of Technology Education and offered by the approved Polytechnics and other technical institutes affiliated to them are not such diplomas as considered equivalent for the purpose of recruitment to superior posts and services under the Central Government.